

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

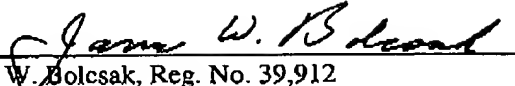
7 claims, claims 11 through 17, are pending in this application. Claims 1 through 10 have been cancelled, and claim 11 is amended by the present amendment. It is believed that no new matter is introduced by the present amendments to the claims.

Claims 3-6 and 8-10 have been rejected previously under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as not being enabled by the disclosure. The Office has asserted that the claims are not enable for a method of treating a human with atherosclerosis, using the ketolides of the claimed invention. The claims have now been amended to more particularly point out and more distinctly claim what the applicant regards as the invention. The invention is **a method of preventing arterial thrombotic complications that are related to atherosclerosis. These complications involve aggregation of platelets, and the compounds recited in the claims inhibit the aggregation of platelets.** The Applicant believes that the nature of the invention being claimed in this application has not been clearly understood during earlier prosecution of this application. Attention of the Office is directed to the *in vitro* platelet aggregation activity described in the specification. The present claims are directed to this activity.

It is believed that this response is being filed with a need for a five month extension to the period for response, and a petition for a five month extension is included herewith, along with authorization to charge Deposit Account 18-1982 for the required fee. It is believed that no additional fee for claims is due as a result of the present amendment.

The Applicant respectfully requests further examination of this application, and a favorable decision thereon. A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. If the examination of this application can be expedited by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned practitioner, collect if necessary, at 908-231-5922.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James W. Bolcsak, Reg. No. 39,912  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
Route #202-206 / P.O. Box 6800  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-0800  
Telephone (908) 231-5922  
Telefax (908) 231-2626  
Attorney Docket No.: 146.1339